

First Place (\$100)

hopscotch
a little girl hops
into the birdsong

*Andreea Lebaduca
Botosani, Romania*

Honourable Mentions (in random order)

no need
to explain
cherry blossoms

*Julie Schwerin
Sun Prairie, WI, USA*

plein air painting--
I fill my brush
with the sky

*Carole MacRury
Point Roberts, WA*

Second Place (\$50)

wilted bud
for a little while
I was a dad

*Ravi Kiran
Hyderabad, India*

the silence
between the wind chimes
autumn breeze

*Sean Brown
Bend, Oregon*

shelling peas...
the giggle we inherited
from granny

*Antoinette Cheung
Vancouver, BC*

Third Place (\$25)

softly and slowly
one haiku all in white
first snowflake

*Blanca Baquero
Canning, Nova Scotia*

unseasonal rain
a doctor searches
for the right words

*Ravi Kiran
Hyderabad, India*

squeaky old gate
the bark
that's not there

*Tomislav Sjekloća
Cetinje, Montenegro*

winter cattails ...
he decides to stop
the treatments

*Jennifer Hambrick
Columbus, Ohio, USA*

fermented berries-
the lilt
in the waxwing's song

*Pamela Cooper
Montreal, Quebec*

Judges Notes:

First Place: hopscotch

This take on Basho's old pond haiku is fresh. It creates contrast within itself via synaesthesia, and within the greater haiku body of work as it constructs a youthful foil to the famous ancient pond haiku of Basho. Even beyond that, it still manages to impress with a strong image and kigo, evoking that sense of nostalgia and joy we all crave.

Second Place: wilted bud

When I was writing haiku for the first couple years, I wondered just how much we can say with so few words. I think this haiku is a perfect example of pushing those limits. This Issa-esque haiku really packs an emotional punch in just ten words, showing how much of the human essence can still exist within the short confines of haiku.

Third Place: softly and slowly

When I started writing haiku, I would get a rush from feeling the haiku moment--that moment of awareness where everything stands still and you get to see things just as they are.

This haiku has a strong haiku moment within it, giving me that rush again. It really captures what the art form is in its most basic essence.

Our 2023 Judge:

Skylar Kay's debut book of haibun, *Transcribing Moonlight*, came out with Frontenac Press in 2022. She currently lives in Calgary, Alberta.

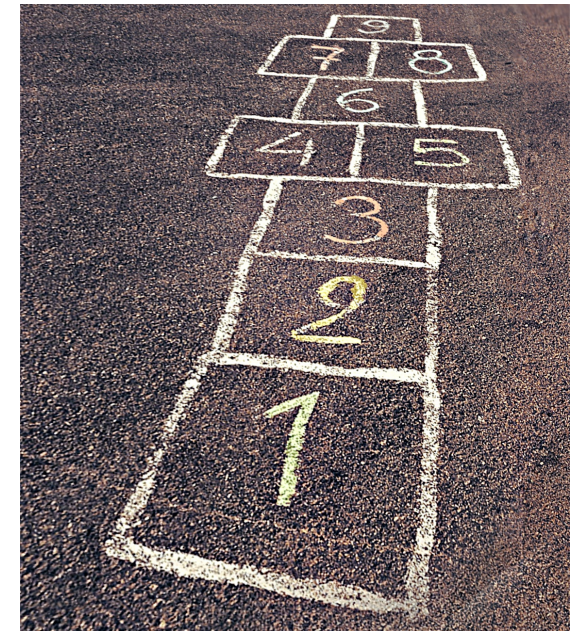
The Betty Drevniok Award

The award was established in 2002 by Haiku Canada in memory of Betty Drevniok, a past President of the Society. "Be aware of the things around you. Let those things reach out and touch you as in the Japanese phrase *"mono no aware."*"- Betty Drevniok.

Contest coordination, layout and image of "Hopscotch" is by Pearl Pirie.

Submission Guidelines: Details of when to send your unpublished haiku are at the Haiku Canada website:
www.haikucanada.org

The Betty Drevniok Award



"Hopscotch"

